

Gina Mouser

From: Vern Crawford [vacrawford@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 10:09 PM
To: Vernon Pickup-Crawford
Subject: Florida Stimulus Waiver approved

Newsclip from my colleague in Tallahassee....good news.

vc

----- Original Message -----

From: [Ron LaFace](#)
To: vacrawford@msn.com
Cc: [Pat O'Connell](#)
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 6:38 PM
Subject: Waiver approved

Just days after Florida lawmakers passed a 2009-10 budget that includes education spending propped up with nearly \$2 billion in federal stimulus dollars for classrooms and schools, the officials in D.C. have actually given Florida the greenlight to use the money. Florida had to apply to the U.S. Department of Education for a waiver to get the money, because rules for the stimulus require state education funding to be at certain levels that Florida did not meet. The Sunshine State's public school spending has gone down since 2006. Had the U.S. DOE not approved the waiver, well...Florida K-12 schools would have been in serious trouble, given that it relies on \$875 million in federal stimulus just to keep per-pupil spending steady. The DOE approval releases \$1.8 billion to Florida, and the state can apply for another \$891 million come fall. Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas called the money "critical for minimizing budget deficits" in Florida schools, saving teachers' jobs and preserving programs. Posted by Shannon Colavecchio on May 11, 2009 | [Permalink](#)
Ron LaFace Jr.
Capital City Consulting
850-445-7258